## **AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:**

This listing of the claims will replace all prior versions and listing of claims in this application.

- 1. (Withdrawn) A pharmaceutical composition for preventing or treating a Th1-mediated immune disease, which comprises as an active ingredient a substance capable of acting on the natriuretic peptide receptor guanylyl cyclase A to enhance the production of cyclic guanosine monophosphate in an amount effective to prevent or treat a Th1-mediated immune disease.
- 2. (Withdrawn) The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 1, wherein the Th1-mediated immune disease is a disease due to graft rejection following transplantation, graft-versus-host disease caused by bone marrow transplantation, or an autoimmune disease.
- 3. (Withdrawn) The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 2, wherein the autoimmune disease is autoimmune hepatitis, chronic rheumatoid arthritis, insulindependent diabetes mellitus, ulcerative colitis, Crohn's disease, multiple sclerosis, autoimmune myocarditis, psoriasis, scleroderma, myasthenia gravis, multiple myositis/dermatomyositis, Hashimoto's disease, autoimmune hypocytosis, pure red cell aplasia, aplastic anemia, Sjogren's syndrome, vasculitis syndrome, or systemic lupus erythematosus.
- 4. (Withdrawn) The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 3, wherein the autoimmune disease is Crohn's disease or multiple sclerosis.
- 5. (Withdrawn) The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 1, wherein the substance capable of acting on the natriuretic peptide receptor guanylyl cyclase A to enhance the production of cyclic guanosine monophosphate is a natriuretic peptide.
- 6. (Withdrawn) The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 5, wherein the natriuretic peptide is atrial natriuretic peptide or brain natriuretic peptide.

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7. (Withdrawn) The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 6, wherein the atrial natriuretic peptide is of human origin.

- 8. (Currently Amended) A method for treating a Th1-mediated immune disease, which comprises administering a substance capable of acting on the natriuretic peptide receptor guanylyl cyclase A to enhance the production of cyclic guanosine monophosphate comprising administering an atrial natriuretic peptide or brain natriuretic peptide, wherein said Th1-mediated immune disease is a disease due to graft rejection following transplantation or multiple sclerosis.
- 9. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 8, wherein the Th1-mediated immune disease is selected from a disease due to graft rejection following transplantation, graft versus host disease caused by bone marrow transplantation, or an autoimmune disease.
- 10. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim [[9]] 8, wherein the Th1-mediated immune disease is autoimmune disease is autoimmune hepatitis, chronic rheumatoid arthritis, insulin dependent diabetes mellitus, ulcerative colitis, Crohn's disease, multiple sclerosis, autoimmune myocarditis, psoriasis, scleroderma, myasthenia gravis, multiple myositis/dermatomyositis, Hashimoto's disease, autoimmune hypocytosis, pure red cell aplasia, aplastic anemia, Sjogren's syndrome, vasculitis syndrome, or systemic lupus erythematosus.
- 11. (Cancelled)
- 12. (Cancelled)
- 13. (Cancelled)
- 14. (**Currently Amended**) The method according to claim [[13]] <u>8</u>, wherein the atrial natriuretic peptide is of human origin.

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15. (Withdrawn) A method of manufacturing a pharmaceutical composition for preventing or treating a Th1-mediated immune disease comprising admixing a substance capable of acting on the natriuretic peptide receptor guanylyl cyclase A to enhance the production of cyclic guanosine monophosphate with a pharmacologically acceptable carrier, excipient or diluent.

- 16. (Withdrawn) The method according to claim 15, wherein the Th1-mediated immune disease is selected from a disease due to graft rejection following transplantation, graft-versus-host disease caused by bone marrow transplantation, or an autoimmune disease.
- 17. (Withdrawn) The method according to claim 16, wherein the autoimmune disease is autoimmune hepatitis, chronic rheumatoid arthritis, insulin-dependent diabetes mellitus, ulcerative colitis, Crohn's disease, multiple sclerosis, autoimmune myocarditis, psoriasis, scleroderma, myasthenia gravis, multiple myositis/dermatomyositis, Hashimoto's disease, autoimmune hypocytosis, pure red cell aplasia, aplastic anemia, Sjogren's syndrome, vasculitis syndrome, and systemic lupus erythematosus.
- 18. (Withdrawn) The method according to claim 17, wherein the autoimmune disease is Crohn's disease or multiple sclerosis.
- 19. (Withdrawn) The method according to claim 15, wherein the substance capable of acting on the natriuretic peptide receptor guanylyl cyclase A to enhance the production of cyclic guanosine monophosphate is a natriuretic peptide.
- 20. (**Withdrawn**) The method according to claim 19, wherein the natriuretic peptide is atrial natriuretic peptide or brain natriuretic peptide.
- 21. (Withdrawn) The method according to claim 20, wherein the atrial natriuretic peptide is of human origin.

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22. (Currently Amended) A method for regulating the Th1/Th2 balance in the immune system, which comprises comprising treating dendritic cells with an substance capable of acting on the natriuretic peptide receptor guanylyl cyclase A to enhance the production of cyclic guanosine monophosphate atrial natriuretic peptide or brain natriuretic peptide, [[and]] thereby polarizing T cells toward Th2-promoting phenotype.

- 23. (Cancelled)
- 24. (Cancelled)
- 25. (**Currently Amended**) The method according to claim [[24]] <u>22</u>, wherein the atrial natriuretic peptide <u>or brain natriuretic peptide</u> is of human origin.